

Appl. No.: 09/838424

Amendment and Reply to Office action of July 7, 2004

### **Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

An example of a solution provided here comprises defining one or more combinations of options, defining an operation to execute (e.g. copy and paste, or cut and paste), computing the content of each cell within the source cell range according to the options, creating a version instance of the destination cell range, and copying the source range of cells into the version instance. Each of the options is defined as a boolean variable, which can be set as "True" or "False," and impact the content of a cell within an electronic spreadsheet.

Please replace paragraph [0097] with the following amended paragraph:

[0097] Within the Option Applicator Dialog Box 400, the user can also visualise the variation of the content of the OAC (according to the effect specified in the "Option Effect" combination box 411) when the applied option is set to "TRUE". For this purpose, the Option Applicator Dialog Box 400 contains a "Delta Value" text box 410 showing the variation of the content of the OAC when the applied option is set to "TRUE". In the specific example of FIG. 4, this delta value corresponds to the opposite of the content of the cell with address D23. More generally, let  $D$  represent the default value, as defined within the "Default Value" text box 408, let  $\Delta$  represent the delta value, as defined within the "Delta Value" text box 410 and let  $E$  represent the value taken by the applied effect as specified within the "Option Effect" combination box 411. Then if the applied option (as specified within the "Applied Option" combination box 412) is "FALSE", then the value taken by the OAC is equal to  $D$ , regardless of the

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value of E; if the applied option is "TRUE", then the value taken by the OAC is respectively equal to  $D + \Delta$ , or  $D * \Delta$ , or  $\Delta$  if the value of E is equal to "ADD", or "MULTIPLY", or "OR". If the user wishes to modify the delta value, then it has just to use conventional means (such as for instance the pointing device 105 or some short cuts on the keyboard 104) to modify the content of the "Delta Value" text box 410 so that it displays the desired modified value.